

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

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No. 1

Grace Reformed Church

East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette
REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, Pastor
Residence, 320 E. Washington St.

SABBATH SERVICES

Sabbath School.....	9:30 A. M.
Church Services.....	10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.
Y. P. S. C. E.	6:45 P. M.
Junior Y. P. S. C. E.	2:00 P. M.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday	7:30 P. M.

You ought to have a Church Almanac. It might help you to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

The offering received in the Sunday School on the first Sunday of each month will be applied on the pledge of \$300 which the School gave toward liquidation of the debt upon the church. The first offering taken amounted to just \$7.00. We hope to raise the amount to \$10 a Sunday. At the monthly suppers the different classes will have home-made candies for sale. The money made will be applied to the same fund.

Enclosed with your annual statements, you will find envelopes for your Christmas offering for benevolence. With your Christmas giving first of all think of making a liberal offering to the Lord. You can bring this Christmas offering at any time during the Christmas season, on Christmas night, on the Sunday after Christmas, or at our communion service the first Sunday in January. Let us plan to do great things for the Lord in the days which are just before us and during 1909.

The financial secretary will be ready to distribute the annual statements by Sunday, Dec. 13th. This will give each member sufficient time to pay his subscription in full by January 1st, 1909. For some reason some failed to give pledges for the year, but we are sure they do not intend for this reason, to fail in paying their full proportion to the current expenses for the year. It does not pay to deal unjustly with the Lord. Everyone is to give as the Lord has prospered him. Look over your accounts for the year—tabulate your receipts—and then see whether you have given your tenth. This is what the Lord asks of us. If your income is ten dollars a week, your tithe will be one dollar a week for the Lord, and not ten cents a week. An income of \$20 a week means \$2.00 a week for the Lord, and not twenty-five cents. With this kind of dealing with the Lord, how can you expect that He will bless you and prosper you, either temporally or spiritually. After you have thought the matter over and talked with the Lord about your income and your giving, you may feel that you will want to make a new start with the new year, and fill out a new pledge card for current expenses and deal justly with the Lord. Do you want 1909 to be a year of blessing and success to you? Then remember the source of all your blessings, of your prosperity. Start in right with the Lord and deal honestly with him, this is the secret of success.

SOME RULES BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

1.—Write your name as indistinctly and as illegibly as possible on your envelope. By so doing you may not get credit for same on the books. You can then have something to blame on to the secretary.

2.—If you have any "plugged," marred, defaced, or smooth pieces of money that you couldn't pass at the bank put them in the collection. If the secretary doesn't credit you with them, you may get credit in Heaven??

3.—Always put a different amount in your envelope than is indicated by the figures on the outside. It gives the secretary good practice in figures.

4.—Use the red "music" envelopes in the pews for any collection. The secretary is a good guesser.

5.—Don't sign a pledge card. That is too systematic a way of doing things. Besides, if you have no pledge you have no definite amount to pay for the year.

6.—Never keep a record of what you pay, as it is much easier guessed at, and if you are not paid up in full, you can more easily blame the secretary.

7.—Needn't give the secretary your address or change of residence, as he is a sort of a city directory and always knows just where to send your statement.

8.—Write your name in as many different ways as possible. For instance if your name is Mary Helen Jones and your husband's John Frank Jones, the following combination can be used to keep the secretary guessing: Mrs. Mary Jones, Mrs. John Jones, Mrs. J. F. Jones, Mary Jones, Mrs. J. Frank Jones, Mrs. M. H. Jones, Mrs. Helen Jones, Mrs. Jones, or just Jones.

W. A. HOBSON.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Kessler after December 18th will reside at 417 Bass street.

If you have not already filled out a card for the church debt will you do so at once, so that we may have all the cards in by Jan. 1st. The pledges received up to date indicate that the people are anxious to pay off our indebtedness, and make a start on an organ fund. The subscriptions so far have been very liberal, and show a right spirit. No one is urged to give beyond his ability. Give what you feel is your share, and as the Lord directs, and enables you to give. You have three years in which to pay your pledge. Determine upon some amount, and fill out your card and send it in. We know of some families that have been thinking this matter over seriously and who have spoken to the pastor about their cards and will give their subscriptions very soon. There may be some who may feel disposed not to give anything. Some who may feel that they cannot give. There is scarcely a member in Grace church who cannot give some amount. In fact some of those who are the least able to give were among the first to fill out pledges, and they have given very liberally. If you do not feel disposed to give to this fund, do not discourage others and try to influence them not to do their duty. As a church member, and above all as a Christian, you are to be helpful to others, in their Christian duty. If you cannot be a helper, then beware that you will not be a hinderer. Do not listen to what others have to say, act for yourself. The Christian must act upon his own convictions of duty and of right.

The pastor will start his catechetical class after the holidays. There are a large number of boys and girls in the Sunday School who should join the class when it starts.

The Sunday School scholars will all be supplied with Christmas envelopes. Help them to fill these envelopes. They want a large offering for the Sunday School.

Married at the parsonage, Nov. 10th, Mr. Glen Abel and Miss Agnes E. Michael. Both are residents of New Haven, Ind.

The pastor and wife attended Thanksgiving services at Bluffton and ate dinner with Rev. and Mrs. Diefenbach at the First Reformed church.

The women are very busy at their sewings at the church making aprons. They are not able to supply the demand. The next all-day sewing will be Wednesday, Dec. 16th. They want a hundred women present on that day.

Are you buying your Christmas present? Did you ever think that the members of Grace church should give some of their patronage to the firms that for years have been giving us their advertisements for the Visitor. Do not forget them.

Baptisms Sabbath afternoon, Nov. 8th, Edwin Karl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gemmer; at the church Sabbath morning, Nov. 22nd, Helen Marie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Payne; Sabbath afternoon, Dec. 6th, Kathryn, Ruby and Donald Roscoe, children of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Mullin, of Montpelier, Ohio.

On a recent Sunday at the morning service subscriptions were taken for our fuel fund. Some \$80 were subscribed that morning, and some subscriptions have been received since. The amount should be raised to over \$100, and this can be done very easily if the members who were not present that morning will do their part.

Tuesday evening, Nov. 24th, the young people had their monthly business meeting and annual election of officers. The officers are as follows: Irving Bitner, president; Clara Schaaf, vice president; Nora Minor, secretary; Raymond Close, treasurer; Bertha Bitner, pianist. The society also voted to give a \$50 pledge for the church debt.

The Sunday School is rehearsing a cantata entitled "The Spirit of Christmas," which will be given on Christmas night. Mrs. Zartman has charge of the Christmas entertainment. It is only due to her that the parents, whose children are taking part in the cantata, should see to it that the children are prompt in their attendance at the rehearsals, and that they come for work and not for play. No one knows the amount of patience and hard work it requires to drill the children for these cantatas. The absence of one child from the rehearsals delays the work and makes it all the more difficult. The parents can assist in this work very much, if they are interested, and will see to it that their children will be prompt. The choir is also rehearsing a sacred cantata entitled "The Crowning of the King" which will be given on Sunday evening, Dec. 27th.

Pledges for the \$5,000 for the church debt and organ fund are still coming in. Besides the \$1,200 pledge by the Woman's Aid Society, and the \$300 pledge by the Sunday School, the pastor has one \$400 pledge, six \$150 pledges, several \$100 pledges, some \$50, a number of \$30 pledges, etc. We ought to have some more \$150 pledges, some \$100 pledges and a large number of other amounts. Please fill out your cards and send them in as early as you can. We want to make a report of the pledges at the annual meeting on New Year's Day. We aimed to supply all the families with pledge cards, but we have learned of some who did not receive theirs. If in some way your card did not reach you ask the pastor or any member of the Consistory for one.

In your Christmas shopping go to Mr. Hill's store on East Main street, just across from the courthouse. His store is a veritable wonderland. Carloads of toys and almost anything you may want for a Christmas gift.

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

Mr. and Mrs. Craine, of Buffalo, are visiting relatives in the city. Mrs. Craine is a sister of Mrs. Leikauf and Mrs. Wilbert.

Wanted just now, 100 members of Grace church to join the Bible class. Come and bring every person you can with you.

The monthly Missionary Meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 16th, in connection with the all-day sewing announced for that day.

Sabbath morning, Nov. 29th, Karl Kriete, student at the Central Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio, preached for us. He is a very pleasant and entertaining speaker. He is the son of Rev. C. F. Kriete, of Louisville, Ky., formerly pastor of the Salem Reformed church. When the family resided in the city Karl used to attend our Sunday School. He was then a little tot about four years old.

The pastor is for the present teaching the adult Bible class in the Sunday School. With the assistance of the members of the class we are making an effort to see a much larger attendance of our men and women at the Sunday School. There is no reason why the married men and women should not be in the Sunday School. We are sure it is only indifference. All could come if they only had a will and disposition to do so. If the men and women of other churches can attend their Sunday Schools the members of Grace church can do the same if they had the proper interest. The pastor hears the class in the church auditorium promptly at 10 o'clock. He should be pleased to have every member of the church join the class. Turn a new leaf and make the start.

For some time the pastor has been feeling that he could use a stereopticon in his work in the Sunday School and church to a very good advantage, and was specially anxious to have one for the work during the holidays and through the winter. A meeting of the men was called at the close of a Sunday morning service recently, when this matter was presented to the men and considered. After a short talk by the pastor and expressions were given by some of the men, it was decided by a unanimous vote to secure a stereopticon at once. To meet the expense, the men decided that every man in the church should be asked to contribute something toward this fund. Another meeting of the men was held at the close of the evening service of the same day, when the pastor quoted prices upon different lanterns. The pastor was instructed to proceed at once with the purchase of a first-class lantern, and a committee consisting of the following men was appointed to collect money for the outfit: F. E. More, H. E. Metzner, J. H. Breuer, W. F. Close, John Koepf. The men present at these meetings each gave one dollar toward the purchase of the lantern. We expect to have a lantern in a very short time and have everything ready to use it. Some extra wiring will have to be done, but this will be completed in a short time. We hope to use the lantern for an entertainment for the Sunday School some evening during the holiday week. The men who have subscribed to the stereopticon fund can pay their money to Mr. More, who is chairman of the soliciting committee.

Mrs. Parley Zartman has been at the Woman's Hospital in New York City for several weeks, where she had a very serious operation. She is getting along very well and they hope to return to Winona before the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hosler are now living at 1006 Washington Boulevard East.

Irving Bitner attended the District C. E. convention at Decatur Nov. 26th and 27th. He made a splendid report of the convention to our society on a recent Sabbath evening.

Lottie and Edwin Weiler were at the St. Joseph Hospital for several weeks, both sick with typhoid fever. They are recovering very rapidly and are able to be out to the services again.

The large mat which you find in the west entrance of the church was placed there by our Young People's Society. Put your feet on it when you come in that way. They also put the matting down in the church.

The Finance Committee of the Consistory is very anxious to give a good accounting of the finances of the church for the year. By Dec. 13th you will have your annual statement, if at all possible arrange to pay your subscription for the current expenses of the church in full by Dec. 27th, the last Sunday in the year. If you have not had a pledge for the year you will want to pay your proportion toward the current expenses of the church just the same. When you get your statement, see what you have paid so far for the year, then my Dec. 27th pay in whatever you feel is your duty and what the Lord wants you to give. In our giving we are dealing with the Lord and not with the church. We must account to Him eventually. Give the Lord an honest deal.

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Y. P. S. C. E. TOPICS AND LEADERS.

December 13th—Books that delight and strengthen. Prov. 4:1-9. Clara Schaaf.

December 20th—Why was the King born? John 18:33-37. W. F. Close.

December 27th—Mission Study on China. Mrs. Zartman.

Y. P. S. C. E. COMMITTEES.

Lookout Committee—W. A. Hobson, Hazel Gooley, Alice Saffen, Raymond Close, Lula Bitner.

Prayer Meeting Committee—Irving Bitner, Clara Schaaf, Williamine Saffen, Elsie Weickart.

Flower and Calling Committee—Mrs. D. F. Knot, Bertha Weickart, Rev. A. K. Zartman, Arthur Bitner.

Missionary Committee—Mrs. A. K. Zartman, Lizzie Rudisill, W. A. Hobson.

Social Committee—Raymond Close, Nora Miner, Bertha Bitner, John Koepf, Geo. Ruck, Estella Bottger, Geo. Saffen, Ethel King, Lottie Weiler.

In the Fort Wayne Sentinel, under the heading "Twenty-Five Years Ago," there appeared recently the following statement: "If the weather continues mild for two weeks more, ground on East Washington street, between Lafayette and Barr, will be broken for the new Grace Reformed church building."

Since the last issue of The Visitor Mrs. Fred Roth has been at the Hope Hospital for an operation. She has returned to her home on Franklin avenue and is getting along very nicely.

T. W. HUTCHINSON

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